GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2685
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2003
ENVIRONMENTAL COURTS
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;SHYAMA SINGH;VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has since completed its review of the country`s environmental laws;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the cases relating to environment are mounting in the country day by day; and

(d) if so, the time by which the environmental courts are likely to be set up in various parts of the country for its speedier disposal?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) & (b): The Law Commission has informed that it has taken up the study of environmental laws. As part of the study, the need for setting up of environmental courts is also being considered. The study is still in progress.

(c) & (d) : The Ministry of Environment and Forests has informed that the Special Courts have been set up by the different State Governments to deal with the environment cases filed under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and National Capital Territory of Delhi have set up Special Courts. The Hon`ble Supreme Court has also directed to set up Green Benches in various High Courts. The High Courts of West Bengal and Tamil Nadu have constituted Green Benches.